

Vermont Invasive Exotic Plant Fact Sheet

Yellow Floating Heart *Nymphoides peltata* (Gmel.) Britt. & Rendle. Gentian Family Vermont Class B Noxious Weed

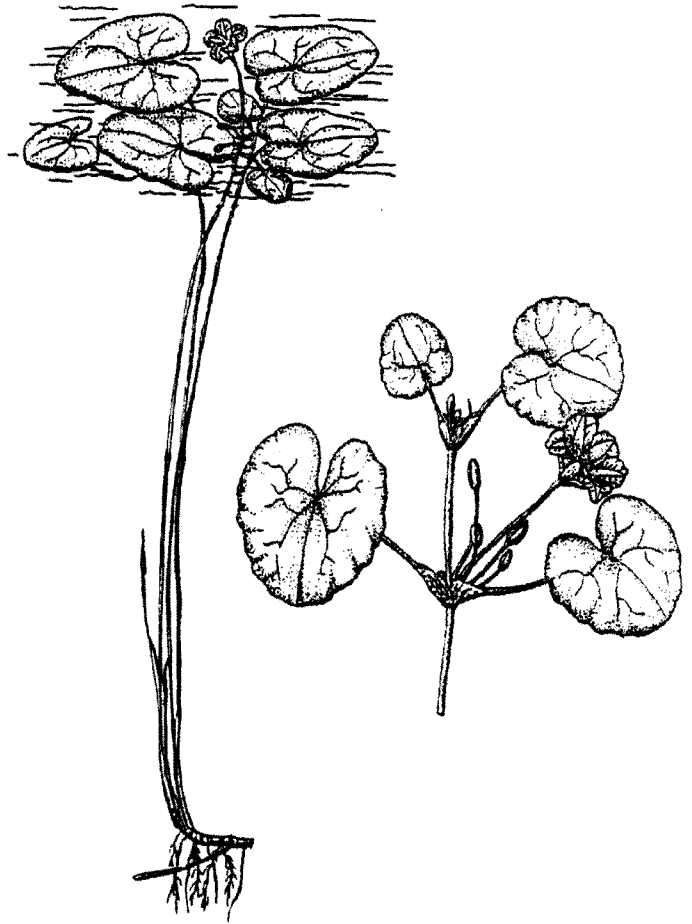
Description: Yellow floating heart is an aquatic plant with heart-shaped leaves and bright yellow flowers. The leaves rest on the water surface and can form a solid impenetrable mat.

Habitat: This plant is most commonly found in shallow quiet bays of lakes, ponds, and rivers.

Threats: Yellow floating heart can form dense colonies, creating extensive shaded areas that suppress the growth of native aquatic plants beneath the mat. Recreational activities such as boating and swimming may also be impeded.

Distribution: Yellow floating heart is native to Europe. Because of its attractive flower, it has been grown as a cultivated ornamental plant in water gardens in the U.S. since the late 1800s. It is now established in close to 20 states, appearing as far south and west as Louisiana and Washington. It was first discovered in Vermont in the 1950s and occurs in limited areas of the southern part of Lake Champlain.

Control: Little information is available on the control of yellow floating heart. Based on the plant's characteristics, mechanical and hand removal would most likely be effective. It is not known whether biological or chemical controls are effective on yellow floating heart.



(Illustration used with permission from : Crow, G.E. & C.B. Hellquist. 2000. *Aquatic and wetlands plants of northeastern North America: a revised and enlarged edition of Norma C. Fassett's A Manual of Aquatic Plants*, Vol 1 and 2. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison)

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Yellow Floating Heart Gentian Family (*Gentianaceae*)

References:

- Countryman, W.D. 1978. *Nuisance Aquatic Plants in Lake Champlain*. Lake Champlain Basin Study.
- Gleason, Henry A. and A. Cronquist. 1963. *Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*. D. Van Nostrand Company.



For more information about Vermont's invasive exotic plant species or if you would like to know how you can help, please contact:

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